

# Old World News Flashed by Cable to The Times-Dispatch

## POINCARE FORMS GREAT MINISTRY

New French Cabinet Largely Composed of Veteran Statesmen.

## RESULT OF 1911 WAR SCARE

Nation's Big Men Unite to Form Solid Front in Face of Enemy.

BY WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS.

(Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.) Paris, February 10.—It is the unexpected that happens in France. Just when everybody is expecting calm, there is a storm; when riots are predicted, profound peace falls over the land; the great railway strikes of 1911 surprised even the railroaders; the Clemenceau Cabinet, which had weathered many a storm, went down in a glassy sea; the Briand ministry survived a great crisis, then resigned the next day with a full majority in the Chamber of Deputies, the Calixtus combination, everybody said, was safe until the Franco-German accord was signed and the negotiations with Spain brought to a successful close; it fell suddenly, in the night, when no one was looking for the crash.

Now what is going to happen? The unexpected, of course. The "great ministry" has been constituted by Raymond Poincaré, member of the Académie Française, Aristide Briand and M. Bourgeois, the Minister of Justice and Minister of Labor respectively, were both Prime Ministers of France before coming into this Cabinet. Out of the twelve men in the combination, eleven are veteran Cabinet members; only one member is new to his job. The new French Cabinet is comparable to what the United States would have been Taft to select Roosevelt, La Follette, Wilson, Clark, Underwood, Harmon, Watterston, Carnegie, Gompers, Bryan, Cannon and Parker as his second. Opinions are as diversified as there are individuals, but in the ensemble there is a strength which justifies the name: "The Great Ministry."

Don't laugh. The story isn't told of the present Cabinet is the result of but one thing: the war scare of the

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## KING GEORGE WILL OPEN PARLIAMENT

Session Which Convenes Wednesday Probably Will Be Momentous.

## HOME RULE BILL MAY PASS

First of Several Important Measures on Legislative Program.

(Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.)

London, February 10.—What future historians will probably record as one of the most momentous sessions of Parliament in the history of the United Kingdom will be opened by King George in person next Wednesday.

Upon its deliberations will depend whether Ireland is to see its long cherished dream of self-government fulfilled, for first and foremost of the several important measures on the legislative program is the home rule bill, to which the present Liberal government is pledged.

When the "Grand Old Man" introduced his home rule bill in 1886, and when the effort was renewed in 1907, Great Britain was not yet prepared for such a step, and the bills, which were thrown out by the House of Lords, caused a serious split in the Liberal ranks.

Now the party is once more united, and with the passage of the bill, the House of Lords, limiting the veto of the House of Lords, the new home rule bill is tolerably certain to go through. The most that the House of Lords can do is to delay final action for three years, by rejecting it three times in succession.

The Irish problem has become so acute that public opinion in England, hitherto the only bar to its enactment, has changed completely, and it is not believed that there would be sufficient opposition to the measure, even if the Liberal government should resign and put the matter to a test election.

A minority of Ulster Orangemen swear that they will resist home rule to the bitter end, even to the extent of rebellion. Sir Edward Carson, Solicitor-General in the last Conservative Cabinet, who represents Dublin University in Parliament and is leader of the antihome rule movement, declares that if it be treason to oppose the grant of a separate Parliament to Ireland, he is a rebel, and the government may make the most of it.

But despite this and similar fiery utterances, no official notice is likely to be taken of the Ulsterite belligerent until the bill is introduced.

Next session, however, a similar measure is likely to be placed on the list, this time with the red star that denotes "government measure" against it, while bills granting separate Parliaments to Ireland and Wales will almost certainly follow.

This year's government program, which will be announced by King George from the throne, will include a number of other important measures, notably to disestablish the Anglican Church in Wales, to remove the grievances of nonconformists under the education law, and some kind of franchise reform.

Church and aristocracy will oppose these three as bitterly as the Orangemen will fight home rule, but the feeling in Wales in favor of the disestablishment of their church is so strong that the bill is almost certain to pass.

As to the franchise bill, there is considerable uncertainty, and here the administration is in such a quandary that it will be impossible to satisfy all its followers.

Last November Premier Asquith pledged himself to introduce a far-reaching measure granting universal manhood suffrage, instead of the present archaic and grossly unfair system, which limits property owners to the only voting qualification.

But great as is the need for immediate reform, it is feared that the government's program for the session is already overloaded.

The situation has been badly complicated by the introduction of the woman suffrage question, and the bitterness with which this issue alone will be fought will make it practically impossible to dispose of the measure in the time at Parliament's disposal.

Immediately after promising the woman suffrage bill, Premier Asquith told a woman's deputation that while he personally still opposed the granting of the franchise to women, the government would accept an amendment to the franchise bill including women in its scope, provided there was a parliamentary majority in favor.

He told them that it was up to them to persuade Parliament, but that he and some of his colleagues in the Cabinet would oppose them. The women were satisfied with this only because they had the support of Chancellor of the Exchequer David Lloyd George, Navy Secretary Winston Churchill and other prominent politicians.

The situation thus created has become impossible for Lloyd George and his followers arranged for a vigorous votes-for-women campaign, and Asquith, true to his principles, declared that he would head an opposition campaign. The spectacle of Cabinet ministers campaigning against each other is absolutely unprecedented in English political history, for the Cabinet must always be unanimous in public, whatever they may be in the council chamber, and such a split could scarcely fail to result in the wreck of the government.

According to the prevailing practice, the Premier must be supported in season and out of season by his colleagues, and he must either kick out dissenting members or resign himself.

## GREAT OPPOSITION TO CATHOLICISM

Persecutions in Portugal Are Most Violent in History of Church.

## THREE BISHOPS EXPELLED

Diplomatic Relations Between Holy See and Lisbon Practically Off.

(Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.)

Rome, February 10.—As a result of the alleged persecutions against the Catholic Church in Portugal, diplomatic relations between the Holy See and Lisbon, although they have from been officially declared off, are to all practical purposes, temporarily at least, at an end.

In Vatican circles it is admitted that the opposition to the church is now meeting in Portugal in one of the most violent in the history of Catholicism. The present acute situation has arisen solely from the efforts of the Portuguese government to carry out the separation of the church and the state. Previous to the revolution in Portugal, however, the Holy See had just completed a concordat with King Manuel. This the Pope is still endeavoring to carry out, as far as the Vatican is concerned, in the agreement in order that Portugal may have no opportunity of saying that the Holy See was the first to break the agreement.

The alleged persecution of the clergy has now reached a climax in the expulsion from their dioceses, for two years of three of the bishops of Portugal, including the Patriarch of Lisbon, whom Pope Pius created a cardinal "in pectore" at the recent consistory, it having been one of the articles of the concordat with Portugal that the Patriarch of Lisbon was always to have the rank of cardinal.

In expelling these three bishops, the government of Portugal maintains that they have not only violated the laws of the republic, but have also violated their instructions from the Vatican. These instructions from the Vatican, it is known, were that the bishops should do nothing whatever to interfere with the government's carrying out of the provisions of the law of separation. That the bishops, however, wrote letters to the clergy of their dioceses denouncing the persecutions for worship, which had been organized by the state as part of the work of separation, and it was this that the Vatican disapproved. The Portuguese government to be contrary to the law of the state, but of the instructions of the Vatican.

The situation, therefore, is especially difficult for either party to handle, owing to the fact that diplomatic relations between Portugal and the Holy See are now actually, though not officially, broken, while the situation is such that it will likely prove a very difficult matter to resume them.

Portugal's population is largely Catholic, and the influence of the Pope is so great that it would be possible even to cause revolution against a government hostile to the Vatican, should the church ever be disposed to go to such an extreme, which is, of course, most unlikely. The Vatican declares this and desires to continue diplomatic relations with the Holy See was made evident when the new government reorganized its diplomatic corps. The embassy at the Holy See was instantly promoted to a legation of the first class.

Unfortunately, a few months ago Marchese di Lagoa, the Portuguese ambassador to the Holy See, resigned. In the face of the strong anticlerical policy of the government, it was therefore impossible for Portugal to name a new ambassador at once, especially when this would mean the naming of an ambassador of the first class for the first time, without creating the appearance that Portugal was a little bit anxious to remain on good terms with the Vatican.

The appointment of a successor was therefore allowed to lapse, until now, when an ambassador at Rome is badly needed, it is impossible to appoint one, because the Vatican would certainly refuse to receive him.

As a consequence, at the present time, diplomatic relations do not exist between Lisbon and the Holy See, and the prospect of a settlement of the trouble seems remote. It was nevertheless expected in Rome that Pope Pius in the near future will avail himself of whatever vigorous measures are at his command to force Portugal to assume a more lenient attitude towards the church. Just what these measures will be, no one has yet ventured to suggest.

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KING FREDERICK VIII. OF DENMARK. Who is seriously ill in his palace at Copenhagen. The nature of his malady is not announced, but it is supposed that he was attacked with a chill.

decided that it would be wrong to resign because of this one disagreeable, and as the government would not in any case have time to deal with the whole question this year, it is believed that the troublemaker will be shelved, the government contemplating itself merely with formal introduction of a bill prohibiting plural voting. The women are naturally exasperated, but the difficulty may be solved by the government granting facilities for a discussion of a separate woman's suffrage bill, introduced by a private member.

## Railroads

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Accommodation Trains—Weekdays.

Leave Richmond. Arrive Richmond. 7:30 A. M. Richmond to Washington. 11:30 A. M. Washington to Richmond. 3:30 P. M. Richmond to Washington. 7:30 P. M. Washington to Richmond.

Atlantic Coast Line

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Cheasapeake & Ohio Railway

Leave Richmond. Arrive Richmond. 7:30 A. M. Richmond to Washington. 11:30 A. M. Washington to Richmond. 3:30 P. M. Richmond to Washington. 7:30 P. M. Washington to Richmond.

Richmond & Petersburg Electric Railway

Leave Richmond. Arrive Richmond. 7:30 A. M. Richmond to Petersburg. 11:30 A. M. Petersburg to Richmond. 3:30 P. M. Richmond to Petersburg. 7:30 P. M. Petersburg to Richmond.

Richmond & Norfolk Electric Railway

Leave Richmond. Arrive Richmond. 7:30 A. M. Richmond to Norfolk. 11:30 A. M. Norfolk to Richmond. 3:30 P. M. Richmond to Norfolk. 7:30 P. M. Norfolk to Richmond.

Richmond & York River Electric Railway

Leave Richmond. Arrive Richmond. 7:30 A. M. Richmond to York River. 11:30 A. M. York River to Richmond. 3:30 P. M. Richmond to York River. 7:30 P. M. York River to Richmond.

Richmond & James River Electric Railway

Leave Richmond. Arrive Richmond. 7:30 A. M. Richmond to James River. 11:30 A. M. James River to Richmond. 3:30 P. M. Richmond to James River. 7:30 P. M. James River to Richmond.

Richmond & Appomattox Electric Railway

Leave Richmond. Arrive Richmond. 7:30 A. M. Richmond to Appomattox. 11:30 A. M. Appomattox to Richmond. 3:30 P. M. Richmond to Appomattox. 7:30 P. M. Appomattox to Richmond.

Richmond & Pamunkey Electric Railway

Leave Richmond. Arrive Richmond. 7:30 A. M. Richmond to Pamunkey. 11:30 A. M. Pamunkey to Richmond. 3:30 P. M. Richmond to Pamunkey. 7:30 P. M. Pamunkey to Richmond.

Richmond & Rappahannock Electric Railway

Leave Richmond. Arrive Richmond. 7:30 A. M. Richmond to Rappahannock. 11:30 A. M. Rappahannock to Richmond. 3:30 P. M. Richmond to Rappahannock. 7:30 P. M. Rappahannock to Richmond.

Richmond & Northampton Electric Railway

Leave Richmond. Arrive Richmond. 7:30 A. M. Richmond to Northampton. 11:30 A. M. Northampton to Richmond. 3:30 P. M. Richmond to Northampton. 7:30 P. M. Northampton to Richmond.

Richmond & Stafford County Electric Railway

Leave Richmond. Arrive Richmond. 7:30 A. M. Richmond to Stafford County. 11:30 A. M. Stafford County to Richmond. 3:30 P. M. Richmond to Stafford County. 7:30 P. M. Stafford County to Richmond.

Richmond & Loudoun Electric Railway

Leave Richmond. Arrive Richmond. 7:30 A. M. Richmond to Loudoun. 11:30 A. M. Loudoun to Richmond. 3:30 P. M. Richmond to Loudoun. 7:30 P. M. Loudoun to Richmond.

Richmond & Culpeper Electric Railway

Leave Richmond. Arrive Richmond. 7:30 A. M. Richmond to Culpeper. 11:30 A. M. Culpeper to Richmond. 3:30 P. M. Richmond to Culpeper. 7:30 P. M. Culpeper to Richmond.

Richmond & Orange Electric Railway

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